

staff that it took three years to remove a particular teacher who routinely slept through classes. Fortunately, she was able to bring in many motivated teachers and aides who are as interesting in learning as they are in teaching.

Special education has presented a tough challenge to Hudson Elementary. Principal Dumph is committed to the ideal of educating special needs children. Several people on staff are dedicated to just that. However, she recognizes the need for changes to the law. Currently the law does not allow principals to expel dangerous students. Hudson has already witnessed one tragic killing from a violent student who could not be expelled because of federal laws. Now he is receiving special care, but the price has been another's life. Additionally, the federal government has not paid its promised share for special education mandates. The money makes a big difference to a small farming town school.

One of the greatest frustrations is that children are not coming to school prepared to learn. The simple things which teachers once could take for granted are not mastered before kindergarten today. Many children do not have the foundations for learning. They do not have a basic level of language or recognition of patterns. Teachers have to take several steps back before moving forward. Parental involvement before and during formal education is essential.

In the face of these challenges, Hudson Elementary School continues to provide a good solid education to the kids of eastern Colorado. I would like to thank Principal Dumph for her time and her commitment to education.

TRIBUTE TO JAMES LOCHREY  
HARRIS

**HON. JULIAN C. DIXON**

OF CALIFORNIA

**HON. WILLIAM (BILL) CLAY**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 11, 1998*

Mr. DIXON. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join with my distinguished colleague and friend from Missouri, the Honorable William L. Clay, in paying tribute to a giant of a man, Mr. James Lochrey Harris. Jim, as he is affectionately known to all who have had the pleasure of working with him during this long and distinguished profession, is retiring as the General Sales Manager of the Washington Hilton and Towers Hotel after an illustrious career spanning 31 years and 4 months. On Thursday, October 1, 1998, Jim's family, Hilton colleagues, and numerous friends will gather at a retirement gala in his honor. In recognition of his exemplary career, we are proud to have this opportunity to share this brief retrospective of the life of Jim Harris with our colleagues.

A native Washingtonian, Jim Harris was born on August 21, 1935. He attended public schools in the District of Columbia, and graduated with a bachelor of arts degree in Psychology from George Washington University.

Standing tall at 6' 4", Jim is a giant of a man—both literally and figuratively. He is one

of the finest individuals that we have had the privilege of working with for more than two decades. Jim joined the Hilton family in 1967 as the hotel's Convention Service Representative. During his career with the Hilton family, he has held the positions of Assistant Convention Service Manager, Convention Service Manager, Sales Manager, and finally, General Sales Manager. Throughout his tenure, he has been an individual of inestimable good humor, patience and good will—and individual who has consistently demonstrated the utmost professionalism and integrity.

It is almost impossible for us to think about the Washington Hilton and Towers Hotel and not think about Jim Harris. He has been instrumental in bringing hundreds of major conventions and conferences to this city, and is perhaps best known not only for his impeccable professionalism and attention to detail, but his kind and gentle nature as well. A modest man, Jim would be the last person to claim the well-deserved credit for training and serving as mentor to several of this city's hotel sales executives, many of whom began their careers at the Hilton under his tutelage.

Jim has received numerous awards in appreciation for his distinguished service to the hotel and convention industry, including the Credit Union National Association's "Appreciation Award for 18 Years of Service; the National Dental Association's Appreciation Award for 18 Years of Service; the National Dental Association's Outstanding and Consistent Service Award," and the Hilton Hotels Corporation, Eastern Region's "Excellence in Sales Awards." To this, we would like to proclaim Jim Harris the General Sales Manager's preeminent General Sales Manager of the hotel and convention industry.

Mr. Speaker, although Jim is retiring and will be sorely missed by a multitude of people, he has made enduring contributions to the hotel and convention industry which shall serve as an important part of his legacy. We will miss him, but are pleased that he will now have more time to spend with his cherished wife Gerta, and their beloved son, James Patrick Harris, a junior at Brown University. It has been a genuine pleasure to work with Jim and we wish him continued success as he embarks on the next chapter of his life. We extend to him, Gerta, and James our best wishes for much happiness, excellent health, and bountiful prosperity in the years to come.

CHARLES MYERS: RECOGNIZING A  
VOLUNTEER EMERGENCY MEDICAL  
TECHNICIAN

**HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 11, 1998*

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to praise both an organization and an outstanding individual who significantly contributed to make that organization viable. The Yulan American Legion Ambulance service and Charles Myers have diligently served their community for more than 50 years with both service and skills beyond the call of any ambulance company or volunteer.

The Yulan American Legion Ambulance service was incorporated as a volunteer emer-

gency medical provider in 1948 by American Legion Post 1363 of Yulan, NY. That these Legionnaires recognized the need for an emergency medical provider years before the rest of the country is nothing short of extraordinary. Their service had its humble beginnings on November 7, 1948, with its first dispatch. Yulan's Ambulance Corps responded in its 1936 Packard Ambulance and began the history of a program that has grown over the past 50 years.

The tale of the Yulan American Legion Ambulance company is not the only story that began that night. Charles "Chuck" Myers, then a young serviceman, was on that ambulance car. This also began Mr. Myers' history as one of the most dedicated Emergency Medical Technicians in New York State. In the first half of this century there was not much training available for members of volunteer ambulance companies. The usual training these men and women received did not extend very far beyond basic CPR and First Aid, and it was not until the 1960's that the State began to organize classes which taught the skills of emergency medicine. Mr. Myers was one of the first participants in these pioneering new classes more than 30 years ago. Mr. Myers' devotion to the American Legion Ambulance company is just as strong today as it was on that night back in 1948.

The civic accomplishments of Mr. Myers did not end with his service on a volunteer ambulance company. Mr. Myers is also an instructor of American Red Cross CPR and First Aid. Not only is he now captain of the American Legion Ambulance company but he is also a member and one time captain of the Yulan Fire Department. He has served as a commissioner of public works and as a lay minister in the Yulan Congregational Church. His fellow citizens know him for acts of kindness such as personally delivering equipment, crutches, and hospital beds, in his spare time. If the recipients need instruction in the use of these aids Mr. Myers provides it and, in the event that the sick are unable to return the equipment, he offers to pick up the equipment in their homes. Mr. Myers' devotion to his community is heart warming. He has logged more than 5,000 hours of service to the American Legion Ambulance company alone, and has served on more than 2,800 ambulance calls. There is no telling how many lives Mr. Myers is personally responsible for saving.

But Mr. Myers is more than a list of titles and accomplishments. He is a husband of 52 years to his devoted wife, Ruth, and a loving father to his son, Robert. He is also an avid collector of toy ambulances. He has displayed his collection at hospitals, trade shows, and even here in Washington, to help promote awareness for emergency medical services. We would be hard-pressed to find a man who has shown more devotion to his community, his state or his country, than Mr. Myers.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and our colleagues join me in applauding both this man and the Yulan American Legion Ambulance Corps on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of their joint achievements.